

### Marker 13

Walk past the large **Ash Tree** with its many dead branches - dead wood is another fantastic habitat for many beasts who can munch away on this ancient tree. Walk into the wild flower meadow. This meadow is very different to the woods; its acidic soil provides a habitat for flowers that are adapted to acidic soils. A haven for our six legged buzzing friends.

Can you spot the below flowers? Tick the boxes.



Meadow Cransbill



Herb Robert



Common Mouse Ear

### Marker 14

Cross the meadow and go through the gate. Turn immediately right and follow the slope up to the stile at the top. Go over the stile and follow the lane keeping to the fence on the left until you reach marker 15, then turn right onto the woodland path.

### Marker 15

Turn right into the small wood. This is the site of the **National Beech Collection** - how many different types of beech trees can you count as you walk through? Take a break and have a chat with the **Shetland** ponies. The walk ends at the top of the path by the Hall. Here you will find the climbing forest play area and across the road is the Orangery Tea Room and Gift Shop, have a cup of Tea, you've earned it!

## Quick Quiz

1. What is the name of the flower that gives the floor a lavender blue colour?

- A - Daffodil
- B - Gerberas
- C - Periwinkle

2. Which animal likes to snack on wild garlic?

- A - Wild Boar
- B - Otters
- C - Deer

3. Which vibrant blue bird might you see near the river?

- A - Blue Tit
- B - Bluebird
- C - Kingfisher

4. Which evergreen tree were planted around the Victorian Ice House?

- A - Scots Pine Tree
- B - Yew Tree
- C - Douglas Fir Tree

Quiz Answers: 1.C, 2.A, 3.C, 4.B.



Find us on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/kirkleyhallzoologicalgardens](https://www.facebook.com/kirkleyhallzoologicalgardens)



Follow us on twitter at [www.twitter.com/kirkleyhallzoo](https://www.twitter.com/kirkleyhallzoo)

Please keep the trail tidy and take your litter home.



The walk takes between 30 mins and 1 hour.  
Unless you stop at a picnic area!

[www.kirkleyhallzoo.co.uk](http://www.kirkleyhallzoo.co.uk)

This leaflet describes our river and forest trail. Follow the markers described below. Keep a look out for plants and animals on the way!

### Marker 1

Welcome to Blythlaw Woods. This Ancient Semi-natural woodland contains many native species. There is also an abundance of **Periwinkle** which will give the woodland floor a lavender blue colour once in flower. **Daffodils** and **Snowdrops** add an array of colour in springtime.

### Marker 2

You are now in the new cherry glade, a number of older trees have been removed from this area which will be filled with beautiful blossom during the spring. Cross the small road and walk into the wood and start to follow the small burn through the woods.

### Marker 3

Follow the path but do not cross the bridge. Why not try your luck at **Pooh Sticks** on the bridge! Drop a small stick into the water and see whose stick comes under the bridge first - best out of three wins!

### Marker 4

Look out in spring for the **Snowdrops** peeping through - there are far too many to count! These woods are also home to our native **Red Squirrel** - if you look up you may be able to spot one hopping from branch to branch. Take the low path here which runs alongside the stream. Look up to your left and you will see a clearing which is thought to be a remains of a formal garden, Lady Mac's Garden, with evidence of a cascade which will one day be reinstated.

### Marker 5

Can you smell the garlic? During Summer time the wood is full of wild garlic or **Ramson** that flowers in spring. It is sometimes also called Bear's Garlic and is eaten by **Wild Boar** - I bet you can smell them coming!

### Marker 6

Time for a **Picnic!** Take a break by the stream and look for **Mini Beasts** in the stick and log piles. These creatures like dark, damp places to hide so make sure you put the sticks back when you move them. How many different sorts of beasts can you find? Tick the ones you find below.



Ladybirds



Beetles



Snails



Spiders



### Marker 7

You are getting closer to the River Blyth. Take a look around at the different trees here. How many can you see? Look closely and find faces in their trunks. Each of their trunks feel different. Some are smooth, others are rough - can you feel the difference?

### Marker 8

Follow the sign for the lower path to the **River Blyth**.

### Marker 9

If you are very lucky and keep quiet you may have the chance to spot the **Kingfisher** - look out for a flash of vibrant blue as he comes flitting past, but you will have to be quick because he doesn't hang around!

The overhanging branches make ideal perches for **Kingfishers** to do a spot of fishing. Look up stream on the boulders in the river and you may see Dippers perched just above the water. **Otters** have also been spotted in this area, see if you can spot tracks in the sandy bank. The river has many types of fish including **Brown Trout** and **Grayling** - a feast for any otters. How many can you spot?



Dipper  
2 points



Kingfisher  
5 points



Otter Tracks  
10 points



How many points did you score?



### Marker 10

Close your eyes and listen for the birds - the wood makes an ideal habitat for woodland birds. How many different birds can you hear? Tick your answer below.



1

2

3

4

5

6

You may be lucky and hear a tapping on a tree trunk - it could be a Greater Spotted Woodpecker! Why not take a rest at the picnic area while you finish the quick quiz on the back page?

### Marker 11

If you look to your right you can see 4 **Yew trees** (one of the UK's evergreen species). These were planted around a Victorian Ice House to provide all year round shade. Hand-made bricks were also found around the tunnel area.



### Marker 12

Along the river there are many Oak trees. In the UK Oak trees provide a habitat for more creatures than any other tree. Its large size and longevity means it plays a unique role in woodlands ecosystem and many species have adapted to live with it. How many different types of organism do you think live in an Oak tree? No one knows!